

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03233 011505Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 L-03 /051 W
-----011512Z 009817 /46

O R 011416Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9485
OSAF WASHDC
DSAA WASHDC
ASD WPAFB OH
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 03233

SECDEF FOR SECRETARY BROWN

OSAF FOR MR. KEEGAN

DSAA FOR GEN FISH

WPAFB FOR BG ABRAHAMSON

CINCEUR FOR ECJ4/7-SA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MARR, MPOL, BE
SUBJECT: F-16 LOA

1. (C) TRANSMITTED BELOW IS LETTER FROM MINISTER VANDEN
BOEYNANTS. LETTER BEING FORWARDED BY OFFICIAL MAIL.
QUOTE: MR. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR
LETTER OF 24 MAR 77 AS WELL AS FOR THE EFFORTS YOU UNDER-
TOOK IN ORDER TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM THAT BELGIUM IS
FACING CONCERNING THE F-16 PAYMENT SCHEDULE. IF THIS
PROBLEM SEEMS TO REACH A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION FOR THE
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03233 011505Z

YEARS 77 AND 78, FOR WHICH I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO YOU,
THERE REMAINS HOWEVER A SEVERE DEFICIT FROM 79 TO 82.
I, MYSELF, STAND READY TO RESORB A SHARE OF IT BY THE
TRANSFER OF CREDITS DESIGNATED FOR OTHER MILITARY PRO-
GRAMS, BUT SUCH A MODIFICATION WILL HAVE VERY SERIOUS
CONSEQUENCES FOR THE EQUIPMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES WHEN
IT IMPLICATES THE POSTPONEMENT OF SEVERAL NATO NUMBER 1

PRIORITIES. NEVERTHELESS, THIS EFFORT WILL BE INSUFFICIENT TO ABSORB THE TOTAL DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD 79 THRU 82.

QUOTE: I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU IF THE CONSIDERATION OF OTHER SOLUTIONS COULD BE PLANNED BY YOUR DEPARTMENT. THIS NEW EFFORT TOGETHER WITH THE ONE I AM READY TO CONSENT TO, WOULD PERMIT US TO REACH A FINAL SATISFACTORY RESULT.

QUOTE: FIRST OF ALL, IS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE PAYMENT OF THE FULL SCALE DEVELOPMENT COSTS COULD BE POSTPONED TO THE END OF THE PROGRAM. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF I NOTE WITH INTEREST THE FINANCING POSSIBILITIES BY AMERICAN INDUSTRY, I WONDER IF SUCH A SOLUTION COULD BE CONSIDERED AT THE DOD OR USAF ECHELON. ALL THESE STEPS TOGETHER WOULD PERMIT THE SOLUTION OF THE DIFFICULT PAYMENT PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE SO FAR PREVENTED THE SIGNING OF THE LOA.

QUOTE: I WISH TO ALSO RAISE IN THIS LETTER, A SECOND AND LAST PROBLEM WHICH I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IN WASHINGTON. THAT IS THE SURCHARGE ON INDUSTRIAL PRICES (LOADING). YOU WILL UNDERSTAND, I'M SURE, THAT IT REPRESENTS A SERIOUS DANGER OF POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS. IT IS THUS ESSENTIAL THAT I CAN HAVE ALL NECESSARY ASSURANCES IN THIS DOMAIN BEFORE I CAN PROCEED TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE LOA. I DO NOT DOUBT THAT YOU WILL DO YOUR UTMOST TO SOLVE
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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03233 011505Z

THIS SENSITIVE QUESTION, HOWEVER I WISH TO BRING IT BACK TO YOUR ATTENTION, BECAUSE OF THE SHORT DELAY THAT EXISTS BEFORE THE DATE CHOSEN FOR THE SIGNATURE OF THE LOA.

QUOTE: I THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTERVENTION AND FOR WHAT YOU WILL AGAIN BE ABLE TO DO, AND REMAIN, MR. SECRETARY, YOURS SINCERELY, P. VANDEN BOEYNANTS.

UNQUOTE

2. (C) IN PASSING THIS LETTER, COLONEL LEFEBVRE (ASST CHEF DE CABINET) ADDED THE FOLLOWING: SOME OF THE DETAILS ON THE PAYMENT SCHEDULE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED THROUGH THE SPO; HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME THE COMPLETE INFORMATION IS REQUIRED. ONCE RECEIVED, IT WILL TAKE FROM 15 TO 20 DAYS TO PROCESS IT THROUGH ALL THE BUDGETARY CHANNELS, PRIOR TO THE MOD'S SIGNATURE. IF ALL GOES WELL, THE LOA WILL BE SIGNED NLT 1 MAY 77.

GDS 31 DEC 83.RENNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBT REPAYMENTS, MILITARY SALES, MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOANS, AIRCRAFT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE03233
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770112-0689
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704100/aaaaditq.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ece8b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2661928
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-16 LOA
TAGS: MASS, MARR, MPOL, BE, US
To: DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ece8b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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